

New York - 28 March /60.

My dear Gray - It is very long since I heard from you, & as I learn that the Torrey's have no later intelligence than my own, I am glad of an excuse for writing you a few lines, that I may know how you are both going on, more especially dear W. G. of whom I have no tidings since the loss of her relative -

Yesterday, a large box reached me from Dr. Hart, containing his (immense) collection of Carices, which he begs me to arrange for him - a single bundle of Kentucky plants for myself (nice, but nothing new) - & lastly, bundles of plants for

Harvey of F. C. D.

D. J. Steetz of Hamburg

& M. Reichenbach Jr. of Dresden.

Now, as to these packages, Hart refers me to you, & says - "I have informed Dr. Gray of my having sent these parcels to you, & that I intended to request the favor of you to forward them to him, unless indeed he should think it best to ask the favor of you to forward them direct from N.Y. to Europe - He will probably write to you on the subject, & I must beg the favour of you to be guided by his wishes in the matter" -

Now, being most desirous, as in duty bound, to submit myself to such guidance, I wait your

instructions in the matter - venturing however to sub-
mit to you, that I had better keep Dr. Harney's package
here, or send it to his relatives the Wosacks of this
city, to whose house he will return on his arrival
from the South - If you should direct the former
packages shipped from hence, it will be better
not to send them by the Wm. Steamer, I should
think, as they charge \$5- freight for the smallest
package - How say you? In my last I enquired
whether I should make a parcel for express of some
few things I have here for you (refer to enumeration)
to which you replied - nothing!

Thus much of business - Truly I have not
a particle to add in the way of news or gossip -
Our wedding comes off about the middle of next
month, but exact day not fixed - I am told
that hundreds are to be invited, & I really dread
the thought of playing Pantalaon to so august
an audience - It is to be at Mr. A's house (not
at the Church, tho' by a Church Clergyman - Bedell)
& in the evening - as I hear -

I am heartily disgusted with your Senator
Webster - Base truckling, I never read - If he
is right in saying that the Union is pledged to
cut up Texas into slave states, why I suppose
that good faith must be kept - but as to his
plea for rejecting the Wilcox proviso, it is an
insult to one's common sense - He will not renouch

the will of God - Is not this Holy Will declared against
all the crimes, which are nevertheless reenacted by
the Common or Statute Law? And again, the South
say they can & will take slaves to the new Terr.
if not expressly prevented - & only ask to be let alone.
Now if the slaves cannot go there, as Webster
says, how does the proviso injure the owners of
them? If these last are correct, then, most clearly
the law is needed - & Webster, of all men, not long
ago, glorified himself as a main author, or reviver
of this very proviso that he now rejects & abuses!

No more of this, or I shall get savage.
only tell me - Can a politician be honest
& sincere? Is it in the nature of things?
If not, I suppose Webster is to be forgiven -
we have a terrible snow storm falling,
& I doubt whether I shall be able to mail
this today, tho' I have written it -

With much love to you both
I am Yrs. always
J.

Good Friday Morn. I did not stir out yesterday. Today
is bright but cold, & the snow lying on the ground -
I have read with painful interest the case as framed
against Prof. Webster - I cannot imagine how they can
rebut the evidence since his Counsel says they do not
mean to offer any thing in explanation of the remains found
on his premises - It is an awful affair, & I am very glad that
he was not of your intimates - I looked for your name amongst his
associates as to Character -



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